

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

L-03 H-03 SS-15 NSC-10 STR-08 CEA-02 /154 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAF:KLMARSHALL:STT

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APPROVED BY ARA/PAF:BBELL

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ARA:RAHURWITCH T INFO

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P 012057Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AR, PFOR

SUBJECT: NOON BRIEFING - INCIDENT CONCERNING PENDING

ARGENTINIAN BANKING LEGISLATION

FOLLOWING GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR NOON PRESS BRIEFING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1. NO QUESTIONS ASKED AT BRIEFING BUT
GUIDANCE USED IN RESPONSE TO INDIVIDUAL PRESS QUERIES.

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE CHARGE THAT THE U.S.
EMBASSY IN ARGENTINA TRIED TO INFLUENCE ARGENTINIAN LEGIS-
LATION ON FOREIGN BANKING AND INVESTMENT IN ARGENTINA?

SUGGESTED REPLY: WHILE WE RECOGNIZE ANY COUNTRY'S SOVEREIGN-
TY AND RIGHT TO ENACT ITS OWN LEGISLATION, IT HAS LONG BEEN
THE PRACTICE AMONG FRIENDLY NATIONS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON
THE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF DRAFT LEGISLATION ON THEIR RES-
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PECTIVE INTERESTS. IT WAS IN PURSUIT OF THIS GENERAL

PRACTICE THAT WE UNDERSTAND THE EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES
CONDUCTED CONVERSATIONS ON THE SUBJECT.

Q: WHAT ABOUT THE NOTES AND MEMOS MENTIONED IN THE PRESS
STORIES?

SUGGESTED REPLY: WE UNDERSTAND THESE WERE JUST ELABORATIONS

OF THE PRECEDING ORAL CONVERSATIONS THAT WERE SHARED WITH
THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES.

Q: HAS THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT PROTESTED TO THE UNITED
STATES?

SUGGESTED REPLY: NO, IT HAS NOT. FURTHERMORE, I THINK
THIS IS BEING BLOWN UP OUT OF PROPORTION.

Q: WAS THE EMBASSY ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM
WASHINGTON?

SUGGESTED REPLY: ALL OUR POSTS HAVE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS
TO ASSIST, IN THE MOST APPROPRIATE WAYS AVAILABLE TO THEM
THE FURTHERANCE OF U.S. INTERESTS, AND WHEN LEGISLATION IS
PROPOSED WHICH AFFECTS OUR INTERESTS, IT IS QUITE IN KEEP-
ING WITH GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON SUCH
LEGISLATION.

TO BE DECLASSIFIED FEBRUARY 1, 1974. ROGERS

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